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The Cause of Democracy
It is time for the people of the states of this country to show the world in plain practical sense they have learned the lessons of democracy—that they are fighting for democracy because they believe in it, and that there is no application of democracy which they do not believe in.

There could be no finer, juster plea in behalf of suffrage than the President's message to the voters of New York. He stated fairly and nobly the basic reason for granting the vote to women—the reason which is carrying the cause around the world wherever democracy prevails.

The cause of woman is the cause of democracy. Those many women who today demand the right to be heard at the polls are the true descendants of those Americans who fought at Lexington, at Bunker Hill, that government of the people might be born on this continent. They stand in a great succession. By steady gains the men have won their way to full manhood suffrage. The cause of womanhood suffrage cannot be long postponed.

Mr. Wilson's message to the voters of New York will have great and unique persuasiveness. No American is carrying as great a burden of our national responsibility as is Mr. Wilson. No American is in closer touch with the forces which make for a firm prosecution of the war. Superficially, it might seem that the cause of woman suffrage lay outside the needs of the day; that its success was remote from the vital concerns which occupy every moment of the President's time.

It is the striking point of Mr. Wilson's speech that he makes clear above all else exactly why, in this crowded hour, he devotes his time and effort to the cause; why he considers that every voter of New York should give his time and attention to the vote on November 6; why the war, so far from pushing suffrage into the background, gives it a new and present importance to which no absorbing interests of combat should blind us. Said he of the world war and its relation to women:

It is a struggle which goes deeper and touches more of the foundations of the organized life of men than any struggle that has ever taken place before; and no settlement of the questions that lie on the surface can satisfy a situation which requires that the questions which lie underneath and at the foundation should also be settled, and settled right. I am free to say that I think the question of woman suffrage is one of those questions which lie at the foundation.

It was necessary that Mr. Wilson should thus state for Americans the close relation between the war and women. In Canada no such explanation is necessary. In England it is not needed. Those of the Allies which have been in the thick of battle for three years, which have seen their women take their places in a people's war side by side with the men, did not need to be told of women's capacity, of women's rights. In five Canadian provinces women have already received the vote; the grant is coming for the rest of the Dominion as a necessary war measure. It is coming in England as a natural and inevitable consequence of the war.

The sole question in this country, in New York, is whether our late entry into the war will so delay its quickening, democratizing influences that we shall stand as the last English-speaking nation to grant equal rights to women. That is conceivable. But we think it most unlikely. We cannot believe that the men of New York will be either so negligent or so unwakened as to refuse their women what has become the final mark of democracy the civilized world over.

The President did not refer to the pickets in his speech. He had already, in his letter to Mrs. Catt, discussed their unimportance and urged that their actions be ignored by the voters of New York precisely as he had ignored them. His attitude will be the attitude of all fair-minded men. To punish the million and more petitioning women of New York, fifty represented by the high-minded, patriotic leaders who supported Mrs. Whitehouse in her appeal to the President, for the vagaries of a handful of malcontents is unthinkable.

signed petition—ask for political equality, for the vote. They will not be denied by the voters of the greatest state in the greatest of all democracies.

Success
The success of the second Liberty Loan, so far as the total of the subscriptions to it is concerned, is now beyond doubt. It was never seriously in doubt from the beginning; for, given our national resources and the exigency of the demand now made upon them, it would have amounted to an indictment of our national spirit to think that a loan for a minimum of \$3,000,000,000 and a maximum of \$5,000,000,000 could possibly fail.

We are just acquiring the habit of making big loans to the government. We shall have to make many more of them as the war progresses. As yet our wealth is hardly touched. In comparison with the other nations at war we have so far made immaterial sacrifices. Our loan flotation machinery is just beginning to get shaken down. Next year at this time we shall probably be looking back with astonishment at the vocal and emotional excitement which accompanied the first and second Liberty loans.

These have furnished us a great deal of excitement because the novelty has not yet worn off our experience with this sort of public financing. But the deeper we get into the war the more earnest and less emotional we shall be about pledging our wealth for war purposes. Bankrupt Germany can still float huge war loans on schedule time. When we feel that we have anything like as much at stake as the German people have, we shall put completely out of our minds the possibility of indifferent and halting responses to loan appeals.

Many of us still think mistakenly of these Liberty loans as investments. An investment loan may fail without special discredit to those who offer it or those who decline to take it. That is a matter of business judgment. But the Liberty loans cannot fail without shaming our patriotism and staining our national honor.

The nation is not now merely offering its citizens an attractive investment. It is calling on them for a sacrifice. It doesn't want them merely to transfer their capital from one form of security into another. It expects them to create the capital for the war loans to as large an extent as possible by reducing their personal expenditure—by cutting off that vast superfluity of consumption for which Americans are notorious. Liberty loans offer an opportunity for honorable retrenchment—for individual self-denial. In that sense they must appeal to every American worthy of the name. And when that appeal is truly understood no war loan which the United States feels the need of offering can ever fail.

Tracking the Seditious Vote
While the shrieks of protest because "Mayor Mitchell" has wrapped himself in the American flag grow ever shriller, the campaign of his opponents takes a course which must make every loyal American, whatever his party, wonder why the protesters should protest so much. Judge Hylan, Tammany's candidate for Mayor, was picked by Hearst—the Hearst who is so good a pro-German that his newspapers are publicly praised in Germany. And now Judge Hylan has become the "Staats-Zeitung" candidate. All the influence it undoubtedly has among disloyalists and pro-Germans is being used to elect him.

Morris Hillquit, the Socialist candidate, smashes the desk with his clenched fist and shouts, "We want peace; we are opposed to war!" And the "Irish pacifists"—whatever they may be—echo him. He advocates a Socialist victory on the ground that it would be "heard in the trenches" and "would hearten the German and Austrian workers"; and guttural approval greets the sentiment from East Side audiences. This is the same Hillquit who refuses to buy Liberty bonds, preferring to keep his wealth invested in the stock of a local coal company—doubtless a more lucrative security than United States bonds. This is the same Hillquit whom Russell, Spargo and other prominent Socialists have denounced, with his fellows of the Socialist majority, as a Kaiser worker.

Hillquit seeks anti-American votes openly; they are advised to go to Hylan by a newspaper which has been their guide and mentor and chief means of expression. Under the circumstances, the protest because Mayor Mitchell declares openly that he is all these opposing candidates are not—that he is too good an American, too loyal to the United States, too desirous of promoting the success of our war and the defeat of the Kaiser, to want one disloyal, anti-American vote cast for him—must be based on a grossly distorted conception of the facts or be deliberately disingenuous.

Thousands of votes will be cast in this election with the mistaken view of protesting against war in general, or of America's war in particular. Whether this is logical has nothing to do with the case. Pacifists are going to try to make a show of strength; seditious are going to try to take revenge on a loyal American officeholder who has done all in his power to support the Federal government.

Men who vote for Hylan and Hillquit may not be pacifists, mistakenly doing Germany's service, or seditious; but they must have the mortification of knowing that they have been in bad company. No man need feel ashamed to vote for Mayor Mitchell. There won't be a seditious vote cast for him.

planets. Such immortals are not the same as the oldtime local celebrity. They thrill more potently, but they twang the heart strings not one-tenth as intimately. A hero shared with the interstellar spaces can never be the same as Main Street's own.

"Diamond Jim" Brady was the last of our local heroes. And he was really a professional, prolonging fitfully by the hardest, most conscientious effort a glory which is nothing if not spontaneous. Bill Devery was our last celebrity really true to type. He knew his public, he knew his town, his talk was as natural as suds on the beer. He belonged. No wonder New Yorkers lapped up his output of words and blew his fame about from the Battery to Harlem.

And now our local bucks have no better choice than to struggle mildly for the relics of "Diamond Jim." They go through the motions of hero worship, they pay real money, not much, to be sure, but a little, to carry on the illusion. The old yearning for a leader, a Main Street hero, is still there. But the town pump has run dry. Those who clutch at a hero shake hands with his press agent. We have ceased to be a locality. We have ceased to have personalities. We are a full-grown, whirling cosmopolis, as bright and staring as the signs on Broadway and just as intimate and friendly.

Aids to Tammany
From a resident of Queens Borough temporarily sojourning in Butte The Tribune has received the following letter:

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: I note you editorially question the good faith of Mr. Wall—who was defeated in the Republican primaries by Mr. Prendergast, and who announces he will run for Controller independently—and condemn him as a Tammany aid. At the same time you insist that Mayor Mitchell, who was defeated in said primaries by Mr. Bennett, should run for Mayor independently. Now, I want to vote for Mayor Mitchell, but if he is guilty of bad faith and is a Tammany aid, as you say of Mr. Wall, how can I honorably do so?

Can you consistently explain the difference between the actions and their moral quality of the two candidates? I would you do so, if possible, so that I and others disturbed by your editorials may vote with the approval of our consciences to defeat Tammany?

"Traveler" starts with the same basic idea The Tribune holds, that the defeat of Tammany is essential to the good government of this city. The defeat of Tammany has never been accomplished by the Republican vote alone, and it cannot be this year any more than it has been in the past. Anything which tends to split the union of Republican and independent votes against Tammany—a true anti-Tammany fusion—is to be deplored.

Mr. Bennett won the Republican nomination for Mayor, but it has been made manifest that he can command in the election only a fraction of the Republican strength. He is a comparatively unknown man; he lacks experience in the handling of municipal affairs and the problems of government of this city. As a partisan candidate, and a partisan candidate only, he cannot hope to win the support of independent voters and of anti-Tammany Democrats. Mayor Mitchell's is the record on which the anti-Tammany campaign depends for its strength. It was announced before the primaries that whatever the result Mayor Mitchell would be the candidate of the Fusion Committee for reelection. Mr. Bennett's candidacy, therefore, merely subtracts from the normal total of anti-Tammany strength, and to that extent contributes to the election of a Tammany candidate. Without chance of election himself, he handicaps a candidate certain to get the usual independent and anti-Tammany Democratic votes and a good proportion of the Republican votes.

Mr. Wall was defeated in the Republican primaries. He, like Mr. Bennett, has no special known qualifications for the office to which he aspires. His candidacy is the more unjustifiable because he is not even the nominee of one of the major parties. He is simply a Tammany aid now, as when he campaigned for Judge McCall four years ago.

The Tribune does not care to express an opinion of the "moral quality" of these candidates' actions. It merely expresses the belief that to whatever extent Mr. Bennett draws votes from Mayor Mitchell, and Mr. Wall draws votes from Mr. Prendergast, they will be doing Tammany a service for which Fourteenth Street will be grateful.

Lincoln's Dimension
(From The Boston Herald)
Abraham Lincoln was not an extremely awkward man. He seemed so because his dimensions were unusual. Fancy him in a large assemblage of men of equal stature and probably much of the "awkwardness" would disappear.

A man four inches more than six feet in height looks ungainly when he occupies a chair in which a man four inches under six feet seems comfortable. The furniture which President Lincoln had to use was not designed for giants. When he rode a horse he sometimes looked grotesque. In action he often was ungainly. But in repose, when listening, reading or resting, often when writing, he lacked little of unconscious grace. And when in action as an orator, especially during his later years, his seriousness of manner and intense earnestness made his gestures, executed with arms of great length, forceful rather than elegant, yet offering small inducement to the caricaturist.

Town Hunger
(From The Chicago Tribune)
God made the country and man made the town, but the devil made the trenches, and the world is so constituted that trenches avail towns. Any one sick of town life has only to put on knickerbockers.

Why Blame the Jews?
They Are Doing Their Part to Uphold This Government

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: As a constant reader of The Tribune and admirer of your brilliant and patriotic editorials, may I be allowed to answer the letter written by Mr. L. T. Heatley, published in to-day's issue under the heading, "Fighting Law and Order."

It is race hatred, it seems to me, that prompted the author of this letter to besmirch a race gifted with imaginative power and loyalty of spirit to the respective nations of the world. For any one to say that the Jews never knew what it was to be loyal in Russia, or to speak of loyalty at all to the Czar's Russia at this time, immediately after the revelations born of the Russian revolution, is sheer nonsense. That Russia is a republic to-day, fighting with the enlightened nations of the world for democracy, the whole world knows is due in no small way to the genius, loyalty to highest ideals and noblest aspirations of the Jewish students of Russia.

According to Mr. Heatley, any one is a Socialist, particularly a Jew, "merely because it offers him a vehicle for fighting law and order." How false and ridiculous, how grotesque and sad it is to read such a statement on Liberty Day! Jewish young men in right proportion, and many voluntary thousands of them, are to-day in the training camps preparing to fight for law and order and ready to give "their everything" for this country. And the author goes on, saying, "Socialism is it is here in New York is not socialism. It is anarchy in its worst form." I don't wish to uphold socialism here in New York or elsewhere, but I can't refrain from saying that to the uninitiated, to those who blindly cling to unthinking and outlived traditions, anything in the state of transition or evolution seems anarchical. This most terrible war of wars is itself the most indescribable anarchy; but our purest instincts and national ideals impelled us to enter this anarchy to help save the world from the medieval tyranny and fear of the Prussian Hun, that to-morrow we might live and prosper in a much better and freer world.

I am writing this for the early and absolute defeat of Germany and the anti-Semitism which she—Prussia—more than any other nation or race has bred in the last century. I belong to no particular party, and, thank God, I am not a German. As one of the Jewish faith, born in Russia, and as a citizen of this country, which I love and revere, I pray for greater justice, peace and happiness, for better understanding and harmony among classes, races and nations. And if it is socialism that might bring this about, then let socialism be socialism, and in the course of time socialism may outlive itself for something still better. I hope for the realization of the nobler principles of life and for the deliverance of all nations from the war-ridden kaisers and kings, from the war-making and war profiting lords and politicians everywhere, all of whom I believe are possessed of subhuman souls, bombed hearts and gas-poisoned spirits of universal type.

The world is undergoing to-day unforetold changes, not only in political or social. There is unrest in every phase of human endeavor—in art, in music, drama, science, philosophy, as well as in sociology. The world is war-torn and socially shattered, and it is so because it is making progress. The world is struggling, yes, bleeding, for a new spiritual equilibrium, that inherent forces, conditions, times and discoveries will give rise to or call forth a new world. This is the calm, a fuller and darker night it will be, the contents of which will shade all other foregone catastrophes.

For any one to blame socialism, or any race or creed in particular, for a universal condition is either malice or ignorance.
New York, Oct. 24, 1917. MAX WEBER.

Mitchel for Mayor? Why Not?
To the Editor of The Tribune:

Sir: I have read pretty well all that has been said or written in respect to the election of a Mayor for New York. I have, moreover, watched the conduct of Mr. Mitchell during the four years of his Mayoralty, and have come to the conclusion that the most sensible thing for the constituency to do would be to elect him as Mayor of New York City for a further term of four years. Our motto should be "Let Well Enough Alone."

As to Hylan, the fact that he is the nominee of Murphy, the Tammany Hall boss, should be sufficient to exclude him entirely. A man who cannot make a speech in public without reading it, is not fit to fill the office of Mayor.

I read a recent speech of Hylan's, in the conclusion of which he characterized Mitchell's term of office as the most disgraceful, etc. New York had ever had. And this in the face of men like Taft, Hughes, Roosevelt, etc., having declared him to have been the best Mayor New York had ever had.

As to Bennett's having carried the primaries, that does not amount to much. Crowds of voters are too often careless about registering. They are sure to vote right on Election Day, which I have not a shadow of doubt will result in the triumphant election of Mr. Mitchell.
J. H.
Brooklyn, Oct. 16, 1917.

Let Hillquit Speak at Upton
To the Editor of The Tribune:

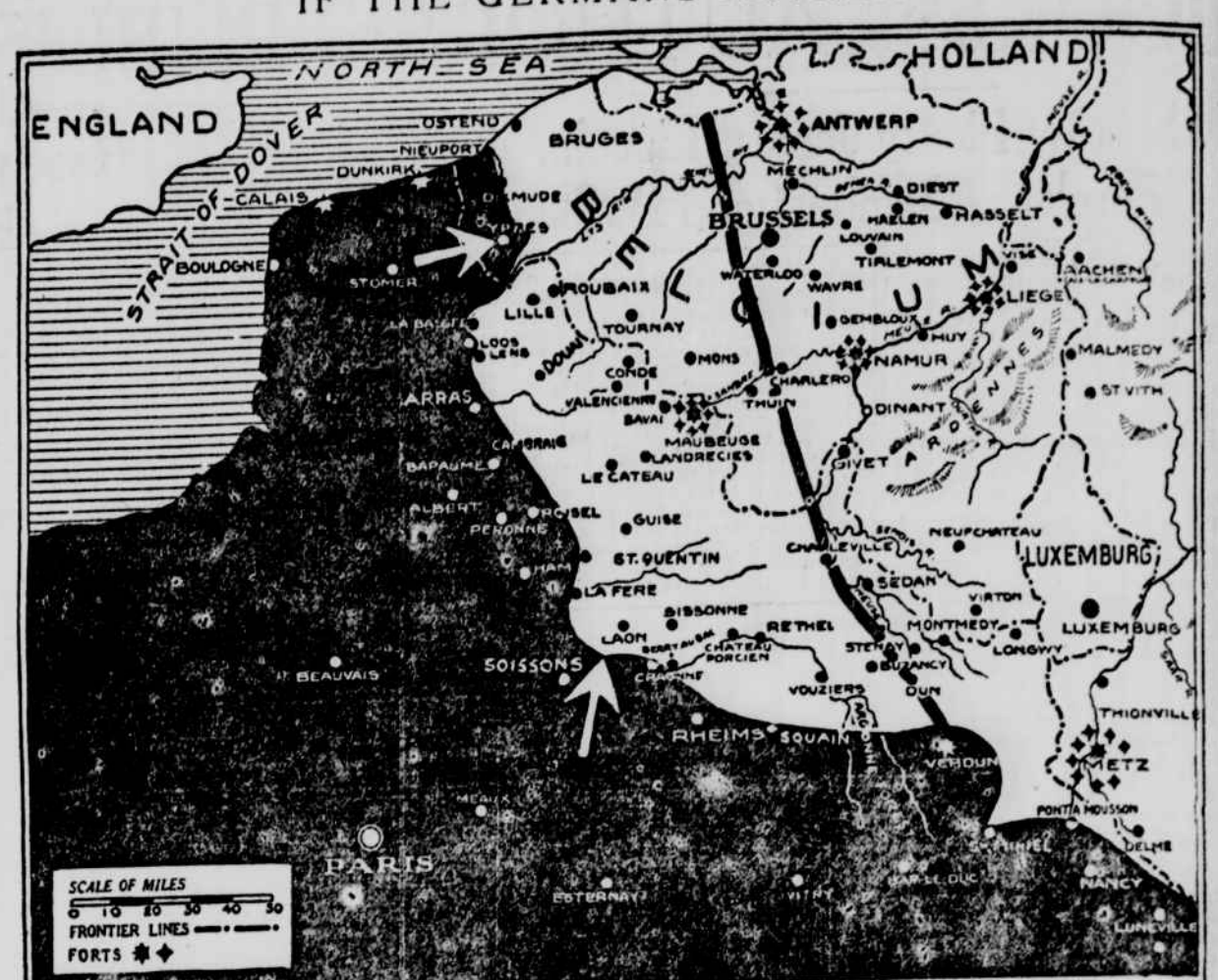
Sir: I earnestly plead that you use your influence to allow Mr. Hillquit, the supreme aid of Kaiser Bill, to come out here and deliver some of his seditious utterings. I'm sure he will have an enthusiastic audience. Yes, very enthusiastic.

Mayhap, we'll sell him some Liberty Bonds before he goes away. And, possibly, Hearst and his nefarious gang will be shocked to learn of the kind of reception scandal-mongers and scum would receive at the hands of the boys, and may decide to go easy on making up Hylan's speech which he may want to deliver here.

Have always admired the attitude The Tribune has taken toward these things and feel certain that it will influence many a wind-jammer to use gloves when dealing with it. Pound, pound to the last minute the truth of political situations as the present one. Be assured that your readers are standing back of you. Yes, "I've got my bonds."
HARRY B. HOAGLAND.
Camp Upton, L. I., Oct. 24, 1917.

The Wilhelms
To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: Is it not a strange coincidence that a large number of the henchmen of William Hohenzollern bear his name as their front appendage? Those occurring to mind at random are William Randolph Hearst, William Hale Thompson, William Bayard Hale, "W." Scott Nearing (if I am not mistaken), and William J. Stone (Stein)? Z. M. B.
New York, Oct. 21, 1917.

Unearthing the Unfit
To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: Why not have Mayoralty campaigns more often, and thus unearth the rest of our unfit judges? Some undoubtedly exist, and one brought to light every four years is a glow prospect.
ROBERT W. SCOTT.
Brooklyn, Oct. 25, 1917.



Solid black shows present territory occupied by Allies. Arrows indicate French attack on the Aisne and British offensive about Ypres. Black line shows next German position.

"Conscription of Wealth"
A Principle Recognized and Now Being Carried Out By Law

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: Like Rose Pastor Stokes, I am a radical, and so do not look upon wealth and its privileges as sacrosanct. But also I am a stickler for a simple, clear and definite use of words, and hence I must protest against this loose, indefinite and, to the ear of the common man, misleading use of the phrase "conscription of wealth."

What Mrs. Stokes has in mind by its employment I can surmise, but her meaning is not set forth by her language. All taxation is conscription of property. The laws of all states recognize the rightfulness of taking property by conscription. So the principle is admitted, but reading Mrs. Stokes's appeal and the appeals of many others the uninitiated would suppose that the principle is denied in theory and practice the world over. Graduated inheritance, income and excess or war-profit taxes carry the admission with added emphasis into the domains of great wealth. The principle and practice of conscription by taxation being recognized by state and federal legislation and administration, why keep on talking and writing as though it were not, thus still further confusing the uninitiated and stimulating in them a discontent and rebellion based on a cultivated misunderstanding?

The principle of the conscription of property and the principle of its graduated increase in the ratio of wealth increase already being grounded in the law, why not devote ourselves to a scientific study of the application of these principles instead of appealing to uninformed passion by talking as though what is so is not so, as though these principles are not now imbedded in statutes and put into effect in administration? The one question now is, How far shall the conscription of wealth be carried so that it shall be an aid in the prosecution of the war, and with the least injustice to all?

This question is to be answered not by denunciation and appeals to class feeling, but by a painstaking study of conditions in all industries, from farming to munition making. Taxation does not end with this levy, so we must always try to know before we clap it on whether this tax or that tax of to-day will or will not annihilate the business we shall want to tax next year or the year after. This is the issue, a practical one, which only reason and experience can solve. The issue is not shall we conscript wealth—that is beyond question and has been for thousands of years—but how much shall we conscript and in what way or ways.

Does not Mrs. Stokes realize that we do not have unlimited conscription of men; that we select, leaving at home many classes who can better serve the state in their accustomed vocations than they could serve it in the trenches; that to send them to the front would be a frightful extravagance, a most foolish waste? In like manner we must have selective conscription of wealth, and to make that selection wisely is an earnest and careful study of facts is requisite. That will raise taxes, while a mere emotional outcry for "conscription of wealth" will raise more hatred than taxes.
EDWIN C. WALKER.
New York, Oct. 23, 1917.

A Challenge From Dutchess County
To the Editor of The Tribune:

Sir: Mr. Everett P. Wheeler makes a statement in his communication in your issue of October 24 which I challenge. He says that his Dutchess County Association made a special investigation of the signatures of the women who signed suffrage enrolments in this county. Will Mr. Wheeler please give the facts as to how this investigation was accomplished? We in the county have never heard of it before. The names of the 12,500 women were on exhibition for a week in suffrage headquarters, Poughkeepsie, and were seen by representatives of the press and several prominent men, who were satisfied as to their genuineness. The anti-suffragists, although they were invited, did not come to see them, hence we are naturally curious as to how they conducted this special investigation.
NINA MCCULLOCH MATTERN,
Ex-Secretary for Dutchess County.
Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Oct. 24, 1917.

Time for the Iron Hand
To the Editor of The Tribune:

Sir: I certainly do approve the sentiments so ably expressed by Mr. Alfred E. Henderson in your valued paper of October 19, 1917, entitled "Liberty But Not License." In reply to the question, "Will we ever wake up to the fact that excess of liberty breeds license?" I can answer you, No!

I am an American who for the past fifteen years and more has stood by while the government made no effort to stop the inflow of undesirables among us. We, as Americans, have only ourselves to blame.

If we fought so hard in 1776 for liberty, and think so little of it after obtaining it as to hand it out so freely to the Hillquits, Bergmans, Goldmans and other discontented foreign born, then we surely deserve what they return us.

And if after this war is over the American government does not remove its kid gloves and handle this question with an iron hand I for one will be a pretty disgusted American.
JOHN E. HOWARD.
New York, Oct. 24, 1917.

Socialists Hampering the Loan
To the Editor of The Tribune:

Sir: One of the most dastardly and despicable attempts to knife our country in the back has just been made by one branch of the Socialist party. I refer to the boycott of the second Liberty Loan being made by some unions affiliated with and dominated by the Socialist party.

Mr. Hillquit, the Socialist candidate for Mayor, has made himself undesirable by absolutely going against the laws passed by the present Administration. He has gone on record as opposing the war, conscription, the Liberty Loan and numerous other acts passed by Congress. He has influenced other people from aiding the government. But, aside from all of his other un-American and therefore pro-German acts, one stands out prominently—I mean the refusal to buy Liberty bonds.

Every one knows as well as I do that Mr. Hillquit is a petty capitalist. His resources are far beyond the incomes of his followers. And still this man refuses to back the government of which he is striving to be a part. Such a man wants to become Mayor of the greatest city in the world—such a man wants this great metropolis to elect him, a recognized anti-American, to lead the city that has twice led the country in Liberty bond subscriptions.

It is the masses that are going to make the loan a success. And here we come face to face with a situation that is against this principle.

Accept the loan or get in wrong with the union, seems to be the slogan adopted. I say emphatically, "To hell with the union!" A rigid investigation into the matter will definitely settle this grave question. An investigation that will delve into all the un-American acts of Mr. Hillquit and his party will conclusively decide whether a set of people can violate the sacred laws of the United States.
HERMAN BAUM.
New York, Oct. 24, 1917.

P. S. 165 and the Loan
To the Editor of The Tribune:

Sir: Have you ever heard of P. S. 165? No school can rival it. That is the opinion of the boys and of the principal and teachers, too. We have been working hard for the success of the second Liberty Loan. Can you guess what our total is? Ninety-three thousand dollars! How is that for a school? Seven hundred and fifty boys are paying a dollar a week, and are proud of the Liberty button.

We expected to have a parade to-day, but it was stormy. But we will show our banners yet. We are anxious to show what the boys of P. S. 165 can do for their country. If every school did one-half of what we are doing the loan would be oversubscribed.
THOMAS CALAFIORE (7-B-2)
New York P. S. 165, Oct. 24, 1917.

For Mitchell to Beat Murphy
To the Editor of The Tribune:

Sir: I am a registered voter, and was inclined to cast my vote for Hylan.

However, a pamphlet of the American party came to me through the mails, and I have read it. Then the infamy of "Murphyism" and "Tammanyism" all came back—and convinces me that I must vote for Mitchell to beat Murphy—and I have made up my mind to do it.

This pamphlet reaches the registered voters like myself it will reflect Mayor Mitchell. It is the best thing the Fusionists have done so far.

Relief Work at Home
Needy Suffering and Contributions Don't Keep Pace With Costs

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Sir: In my judgment the time has come when this community must seriously consider its local obligations with regard to relief and welfare work. However much we would like to, we cannot blink the fact that the rapidly increasing cost of food, particularly milk, is resulting in deprivations at our front door, the results of which are already beginning to be read in the morbidity and mortality statistics of the Health Department.

Neither can we blink the fact that right in our midst there are suffering women and children—women and children who are without clothing, who are without blankets for their beds, for whom coal is either not available or beyond their ability to purchase. And this in families where there has been active tuberculosis during the year, families in which there are many little children who are tuberculous suspects now, and who will inevitably become actively tuberculous unless sufficient food and warm clothing can be assured for them.

It has been recognized fully by local organizations that heavy readjustments must be made in local work by virtue of war conditions; that some activities must be given up or postponed until after the war; that economies that would have seemed impossible before the war must be enforced in this field during the war just as in every other field of human endeavor.

These changes have already been made. There is obviously a limit, however, below which this work cannot drop without serious loss to the lives and health of the children and others who are being assisted. That fact that in most phases of social work in New York has, I believe, been reached; that which is now being attempted is the irreducible minimum which somehow simply must be done as a measure of human conservation and physical and civic preparedness. More than that, the war itself brings new local problems which must be faced.

As the executives of one of the oldest and largest relief organizations in the city, devoted to looking after the immediate needs of families in distress because of sickness or death, we feel that we owe an obligation to the public to tell them frankly what the situation is before it is allowed to become more acute.

As evidence of the fact that social welfare organizations have made rigid economies, let me state that the paid staff of workers in the relief and nursing bureaus in the city in October, 1916, to twenty-seven in October, 1917. The association has also given up one of its branch offices and has given up office space in order to make further economies. Further saving in this direction is wholly impossible without serious detriment to our work. In spite of the fact that there was a slightly smaller number of families in our care last month than the corresponding month a year ago, our expense for material relief in these homes was \$13,125, as compared with \$12,714, and this in spite of the fact that we have been unable to increase the allowances for food as much as the cost of food has actually increased. Our Home Hospital, which cares for tuberculous families, in spite of every possible economy was obliged to increase its budget of expenditures from \$106,340 to \$118,562. Over 1,000 families in which there were tuberculous cases have been compelled to come to this association for help during the last year.

Of them will but mean an increase in the toll which this disease will place upon the community in the future.

There has not been a corresponding increase in income from contributions and donations. Last year we met our obligations only after the greatest difficulty in raising a substantial deficit. The very rapid increase in the cost of food and all necessities, and particularly the great increase which has taken place in the price of milk, has resulted, as a reaction in the consumption of food, particularly milk, in many families far below the standards required for the maintenance of healthy nutrition. This need must in some way be met.

More money is being contributed in New York City for philanthropic purposes than ever before, in spite of increased demands on the part of the government through increased taxes. And yet local needs are in serious danger of not being met even on a minimum basis. However great the sacrifice demanded to meet these needs, they must somehow be met, and I cannot but feel that when these needs, in their nakedness, are made public they will be met.

For this reason I am frankly asking the assistance of your columns in making known to the public in a way which would otherwise be impossible, the need which exists and which so directly affects each of us, must buy Liberty bonds. We must support the Red Cross. We must support the other essential war charities, but while doing this we must not fail to meet the less obvious and less dramatic but every pressing need at our door.

BAILEY B. BURRITT,
General Director New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.
New York, Oct. 24, 1917.